

Muscoy MAC

Meeting Minutes **Tuesday, February 16, 2010**

Council Members Present: Anna Duarte Paul Chaney Angelina Honesto Daniel Marquez

Council Members Absent: Laura Baltazar Vanney Mayberry

The meeting was called to order by Chair Daniel Marquez at 7:09 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAC Chair requested a moment of silence in memory of Warren Malone who passed away recently. He announced that there are two new MAC members and introduced Angelina Honesto and Paul Chaney.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion to approve the October minutes was made by MAC Member Anna Duarte and seconded by Chair Marquez. All were in favor and the October minutes were approved. Council Member Anna Duarte motioned to approve the December minutes and seconded by Chair Marquez. All were in favor and the December minutes were approved.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

- a. Awards Program- Skateboard Park Art & Essay Contest- Frances Vasquez from the office of Supervisor Josie Gonzales announced that Mr. Evans was ill and some of the children were off track and therefore they were not present and the awards will be handed out at a later date. She announced that the response from the community was good. There were 24 essays and 10 art entries. She did announce the first place winner who was a student who attends Vermont Elementary, Leonardo Cardozo. He happened to be present at the meeting and Ms. Vasquez presented him with a certificate and took a picture with him and his mother. She announced that the second place winner is Emily Rios who submitted both an art entry and an essay.
- b. San Bernardino State Parole Office- Agent Rossano Gramajo is the Unit Supervisor for the office that supervises the sex offender population with the GPS devise. California has more registered sex offenders than other states in the country. In 1946 the Registered Sex Offender Law stated that anyone who committed a sex crime as of 1941 is required to register as a sex offender for life. He reported that they only supervise about 10% of the population that is on parole. Anyone who is convicted of a sex crime has to prove that they are no longer a threat to the community and until they do, they have to remain in a mental institution/hospital for the rest of their lives. He stated that 90% of the victims are victimized by someone in their home. Those that are out snatching kids make up 1% of the cases but those are the ones that upset the community and make the local paper. Due to Jessica's Law anyone registered as a sex offender must wear a GPS devise. He stated that in San Bernardino County 100% of the offenders required to wear GPS are wearing them. He stated that if the offender cuts the devise, the satellite is alerted and the vendor gets a hold of the parole office and they respond 24/7. He stated that all of the sex offenders they are monitoring are in compliance and if they are not, they go right back to prison. He also informed the audience that not everyone who is on the Megan's Law website, are on parole. His department arrests more people on technical violations. They have sent some back to prison for having pornography. They are not allowed to drink and are routinely tested for narcotics. If test comes back positive, they go to prison automatically. When they get out, they have to complete programs that are court ordered. They get bus passes and some of them are picked up by the parole officers if necessary. Agent Gramajo stated that the parole officer is responsible for making sure the parolee is in compliance, and that includes that there is no more than 6 parolees per group home, which is what the law allows. A resident expressed his concern for the parolees who become transient and he feels that the transient parolee sex offenders end up in Muscoy. Agent Gramajo told the resident to call him directly if he feels there is someone who needs to be checked out. He added that he just finished checking all the group homes in Muscoy and none of them were out of compliance. He also stated that he is more than willing to go out personally and check or measure any home in the area if a resident has a concern. Council Member Paul Chaney stated that it appeared that some of the residents want to pursue the issue in depth and suggested setting up a workshop to address these concerns. He also asked for the names of the residents who have expressed concern with this subject. The resident's names are: Larry Claunch, Sue Dawson, Linda Thacker, Denise Scudder, Jane Hunt and Susan Medrano.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

A. Sheriff's - Representative Kathy Gray- reported the crime statistics for January. Total number of calls 523 and 93 reports. No vandalism reports, 4 stolen vehicles, 7 recovered stolen vehicles, 10 property crimes including residential and attempted burglary, identity theft, graffiti over \$5,000 in damage, grand and petty theft. 10 crimes against a person including an armed robbery a felony spousal abuse, possession of a dangerous weapon, assault with a weapon, assault and a domestic battery. 9 arrests including the felony spousal abuse, possession of a dangerous weapon, possession of stolen property, resisting an officer, disorderly conduct, possession of a dangerous drug, possession of narcotics, possession of marijuana and a drunk in public. She stated that there is a task force out and the residents might see more units out around the community. A resident asked if there have been any home invasions reported. She stated that there have been reports in San Bernardino and Yucaipa but not Muscoy.

B. CHP- Officer Steve Robinson stated that one of the concerns from the last meeting was the schools. He stated that he did go by Vermont Elementary and spoke to the principal. He will be attending the school meetings and he stated that when he is called out to patrol he will go out and write tickets until the problem is taking care of. He is going to work with the school to see if some of the issues can be taken care of in house. He is also working with Muscoy Elementary to address some of the parking issues there. He reported that Officer Maxson will be back in February but he will probably be taking over the public meetings.

C. Code Enforcement- Officer David Jorgenson reported that Joanna Cavazos will remain the officer for Muscoy. He reported that there are currently 70 open complaints and 20 demo rehab cases. Joanna also goes to Colton and Bloomington. Some changes have been made in Code Enforcement and now each Supervisor is in charge of different programs rather than geographical areas. Anthony Mistretta is the new Supervisor for the entire Valley area and it includes Muscoy. The best way to contact them is through the main number. They have a new Division Chief who is very experienced and they are working on running more efficiently. They are working on getting technology to help them run more efficiently including a new computer program to help them keep track of their cases. They now have an administrative citation process which allows Code Enforcement officers to write a ticket which has to be paid directly to the County. The residents will 1st receive a notice of violation and if the problem is not addressed within the allotted time, they will be given a citation. Other changes are that they are creating a separate unit that will be proactive regarding community issues. Graffiti abatement now has an advanced system that is web based and allows them to take care of it quickly. The number to call for graffiti is still 1-877-44ABATE. On Saturday Feb 20th they will be assisting with a community clean up in Muscoy headed up by Laura Baltazar and Moises Serrano. Next he announced that they are trying to get grant funding for a vendor team that will be dedicated solely to illegal vendors. They want to get funding to hire officers on the weekends. They also want to get a graffiti team who will work closely with the Sheriff's Department on the graffiti issues. Finally, he reported that during the multivendor sweep in January, they wrote a citation to a taco vendor and 2 home based food vendors.

FIFTH DISTRICT REPORT- Representative, Office of Supervisor Josie Gonzales- Frances Vasquez

Ms. Vasquez thanked Jesse Valenzuela of Congressman Baca's office and Jason Buckner of Assembly Member Carter's office and Claudia Lopez of the Job Corps Center. She also welcomed the new MAC members Angelina Honesto and Paul Chaney. She reported that the Christmas feast on December 23rd at St. Stephens Church served a hot meal to over 600 residents, including roast turkey and all the fixings. New shoes & socks were given to adults and children and there were gifts for the children. She also announced that the response for the Skateboard contest was very good and they will have a special presentation at Vermont Elementary where they will have Chris Mendez, a professional skateboard artist teaching the children how to properly skateboard. The skateboard park will probably be located where the old fire station was. Next, she announced the beautification project that will take place on February 18th and 19th. They will be meeting at JLM Towing on Cajon Blvd and a county truck will pick up the filled up bags. For information on the schedule, contact Moises. Finally, the County clean-up event is Saturday Feb 20th, 8 am - 12pm at two sites. Flyers are available.

OLD BUSINESS -None

NEW BUSINESS -None

MAC MEMBER REPORTS:

Member Angelina Honesto stated that she has lived in Muscoy a while and in speaking to Frances, she decided she wants to get more involved in her community.

Member Paul Chaney stated that he has lived on Bronson Street since 1998 and he has a tree service business. He likes to participate in the community activities and is a local member of the SB Chamber of Commerce. He is also a board member of his church and is very interested to see that more time is spent on the sex offender issue and other issues that affect Muscoy. He suggested posting notices of the meetings at community corners or entrances to get a higher attendance at the MAC meetings. He feels that some of the issues that take up more time should be addressed at committee meetings and take recommendations to the MAC meetings. He also announced that he started a website called muscoyusa.com, to put out information about community staples and there is also a directory. He said if anyone is interested in helping him with managing the website and helping pay for the cost, he is willing to work with someone on that.

Chair Daniel Marquez reported that he will be speaking to all the commissioners one on one and assign some of them to work on the committees and he will have more details at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jesse Valenzuela of Congressman Joe Baca's Office announced that on February 26, 2010 the Congressman will be hosting the Outstanding African American Student Achievement Awards in honor of Black History Month at the Lewis Library and Technology Center in Fontana. He reminded everyone that the US Census is coming up and encouraged everyone to participate.

Jason Buckner from Assembly Member Carter's Office announced that in honor of Black History Month on February 18th at the San Bernardino Government Center they will have a tribute to African American artists. They will be showcasing various works from various artists throughout the 62nd Assembly District. It will be from 6pm to 9pm. Also, on March 5th from 10am to 1pm and 3pm-6pm the Assembly Member will be having her annual Open House at the District Office located at 225 Riverside Ave. and she will be there available to the public. Next he announced that March is Woman's History Month and they are taking nominations for Woman of the Year. In the month of May, they will be selecting the Small Business of the Year and they are also taking nominations. Finally he announced that the US Census is still hiring and reiterated what Mr. Valenzuela said about the Census being very important in order to get enough Federal funds for the area.

Susan Medrano stated that she has a complaint against the ice cream vendors and she doesn't have a problem with them in the day, but they are going around at night with no headlights.

Larry Claunch announced that there are three new group homes, two on Mesa and one on Adams. He contacted CSU San Bernardino and they are doing a parolee study on recidivism and he said they would not confirm or deny that the parolees in Muscoy are part of that study. He believes that Supervisor Gonzales has the power to make proposals and change the rules and he feels that she has not done that regarding the parolees in Muscoy. He feels that she needs to start representing the people of Muscoy. He also said he will work with the committee.

Sue Dawson announced that Carolyn Stephani past away the same day as Warren Malone. They also had the services on the same day. She asked the residents to say a small prayer for them.

Frances Vasquez stated that Supervisor Gonzales has done more to bring resources and services to the Muscoy community than ever before. She said it is a Democratic forum and she is glad because people are able to state their opinions. She stated that the County's Jessica's Ordinance is active and is stronger than the States.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Anna Duarte and was seconded by Council Member Paul Chaney. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm.

The next scheduled meeting will be April 20, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by: A. Hernandez
Muscoy MAC Secretary (909) 387-4565.